

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/082,810	SOMMER ET AL.	
	Examiner Jennifer Doan	Art Unit 2874	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

- This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
- The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
- The drawings filed on 25 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - All
  - Some\*
  - None
 of the:
  - Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

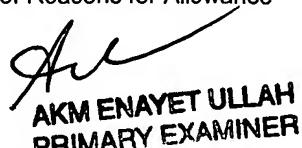
- A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
- CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - hereto or 2)  to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

- DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.
3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. <u>0202</u>	7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
	9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other

  
AKM ENAYET ULLAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

### ***Examiner's amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

On page 1 of the specification, line 2 of the paragraph [0001], please insert (right after "filed January 4, 2002") -- , **now U.S. Patent 6,628,886 –**

### ***Reasons for allowance***

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or reasonably suggest a method and an apparatus of a fiber trim for trimming an excess fiber optic cladding and core protruding from an optical interface comprising a laser cutting tool having one laser beam to the optical interface to trim the exposed fiber cladding and core extending from there; and a trim positioning member to position the excess fiber optic cladding and core between a preprocessing and processing position, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations.

The most relevant references, Gallusser et al. (U.S. Patent 5,201,019), Winer (U.S. Patent 6,553,174), Robinson et al. (U.S. Patent 6,628,879) and DiMascio et al.

(U.S. 2002/0159729) disclose a trimming process of an unsheathed optical fiber.

However, none of these references discloses all the limitations above.

Claims 1-27 are therefore allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

3. The prior art documents submitted by applicants in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on 02/25/2002, have all been considered and made of record (note the attached copy of form PTO-1449). They also fail to disclose or suggest the limitations above.

4. Any inquiry concerning the merits of this communication should be directed to Examiner Jennifer Doan whose telephone number is (703) 308-6179. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 6:00am to 3:30pm, second Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick, can be reached on (703) 308-4819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-7724.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

*Jennifer Doan*

JD

December 22, 2003

*AE*  
AKM ENAYET ULLAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER